

REMARKS

The Notice of Allowance is dated August 25, 2005. Upon review of the claims, Applicant has found several antecedent support problems with independent claims 1 and 17. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 17 to provide proper antecedent support for all claim terminology.

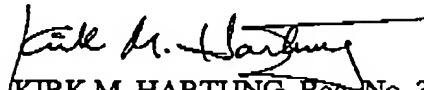
In particular, in claim 1, "side surface" needs to be singular throughout, and thus references to "side surfaces" has been changed to the singular rather than the plural at lines 4 and 8. At line 9, the "inner part" relates to the side surface, rather than the first end, and therefore Applicant has deleted reference to the first end in line 9. In the next to the last line of claim 1, "the second end" has been changed to --a second end-- since there is no prior reference to a second end of the conductive powder element.

In claim 17, line 8, "the first and second end surfaces" has been changed to --the first and second ends-- so as to be consistent with line 2.

With these antecedent support corrections, independent claims 1 and 17 still distinguish over the prior art references so as to be allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this amendment be entered.

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Respectfully submitted,



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